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 jc997 U.S. PTO  
 09/963634  
  
 09/27/01

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yasuo YAMANAKA, et al.

SERIAL NO: New Application

GAU:

FILED: Herewith

EXAMINER:

FOR: PLASTIC OPTICAL ELEMENT, PLASTIC OPTICAL ELEMENT PRODUCING METHOD AND PLASTIC OPTICAL ELEMENT PRODUCING APPARATUS

### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE/RELATED CASE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

#### **REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

#### **RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

#### **CERTIFICATION**

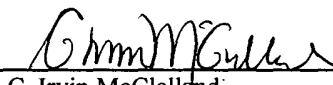
- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

#### **DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

  
 C. Irvin McClelland  
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DOCKET NO.: 214231US3

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METHOD AND PLASTIC OPTICAL ELEMENT PRODUCING APPARATUS

**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY**

**References AO (10-288749), AP (8-201717), AQ (9-49976) and AR (11-77842) of Form  
PTO-1449.**

It is believed that the above references fail to show or suggest a plastic optical element having an optical surface through which an incoming light is transmitted in a light transmitting direction, and wherein a refractive index distribution is formed in the light transmitting direction.

JC997 U.S. PRO  
09/963634  
  
09/27/01

**LIST OF RELATED CASES**

Docket Number	Serial or Patent No.	Filing or Issue Date	Status or Patentee
0557-3111-3 FWC	5,603,871	02/18/97	KOSEKO et al.
0557-4230-3	6,015,514	01/18/00	KOSEKO
0557-4339-3	6,287,504	09/11/01	KANEMATSU et al.
0557-4758-3	09/392,254	09/09/99	PENDING
196032US3	09/660,943	09/13/00	PENDING

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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 214231US3		SERIAL NO. New Application	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT		S- JC997 U.S. 10/96/363			
		FILING DATE Herewith		GROUP			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,603,871	02/18/97	Hisaoaki KOSEKO, et al.			
	AB	6,015,514	01/18/00	Hisaoaki KOSEKO			
	AC	6,287,504 B1	09/11/01	Toshihiro KANEMATSU, et al.			
	AD						
	AE						
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	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	NO	
	AO	10-288749	10/27/98	Japan (with English abstract)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	
	AP	8-201717	08/09/96	Japan (with English abstract)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	
	AQ	9-49976	02/18/97	Japan (with English abstract)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	
	AR	11-77842	03/23/99	Japan (with English abstract)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	
	AS				<input type="checkbox"/>		
	AT				<input type="checkbox"/>		
	AU				<input type="checkbox"/>		
	AV				<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						
Examiner					Date Considered		

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.